

Henry Griffith & Sons sterling silver thimbles made with other sponsor's marks

From Victorian times onwards it was the norm that the bigger British thimble making firms were commissioned to make thimbles on behalf of sponsors, using the sponsor's maker's mark instead of their own. In 2020 I listed those made by Charles Horner, who made thimbles on behalf of 36 sponsors. From this small survey it seems as if Horner were the more well-known maker as the sponsors who chose them, had many designs made for them over the years.

It is now the turn of another of the big four British thimble makers to have their thimble output examined: Henry Griffith of Birmingham. I have found **21** examples of where their thimbles were made for other sponsors.

Henry Griffith & Sons (HG&S or HG&S Ltd) mainly used the Birmingham assay office and occasionally the Chester assay office. How can we distinguish which thimbles were made by CH or HGS? The answer lies in the thimble size numbers. Griffith was the only thimble maker who used the millimetre diameter as his size mark (ie 11 is their smallest size thru to the huge 20).

Griffith didn't always send their thimbles for assaying – preferring to use MADE IN ENGLAND or THE SPA. They didn't use these terms on thimbles made on commission.

see also: other thimbles by HG&S
British sterling silver placename thimbles
Sterling silver advertising thimbles
and

Charles Horner sterling silver thimbles made with other sponsor's marks

AB AB&Co - Alfred Bromet (& Co)



1911 #14



1899 #13

no photo



1899 #15
Empire thimble

AW - Arthur Witting ELECTION



1929 #18



1927 #18

no photo



1927



1902 #19



1928



1925 #17



1928



Sterling silver #16



C&S - Clarke & Sewell



STORY JOURNAL



STORY JOURNAL
1894 #13

CB - Christopher Potter Buckton



1911 #16



1901 #14 #16 1902 #17

no photo



1901 #15



1896 #15



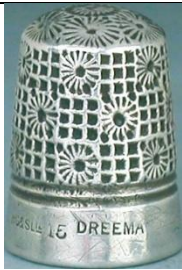
1902 #15



1901 #16



1901 #14



Dreema #15



1904 #13



1911 #16



1904 #17

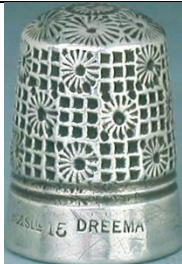


1903 #15



#14

CR&C° - Alfred George Claydon & Charles Robin



Dreema #15



Chester 1910 #14

FWW&C°L^{td} - F W Woolworths & C° L^{td}



1928 #17



#15

GB - George Boot

no photo



1901 #15

GS - George Snook

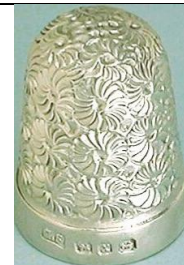


Chester 1896 #13

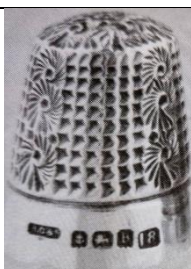


Chester 1895 #15

no photo



1897



1926 #18



1898

no photo



1904

HWL^D – Henry Williamson L^{td}

no photo



1908 #13

JC JC&S - Joseph Cook & Son

no photo		1894
no photo		Chester 1912 #17

JDL^D - Johnson Durban Ltd

		1898 #14
no photo		1901 #15
no photo		1902 #15
no photo		1904

JWL^{td} - James Walker Limited



1911 #14



CONROY COUCH
1924



1931 #13



COURLANDER THE CROYDON JEWELLER



L J WADE BOGNOR
1926 #14



JAMES WALKER THE LONDON JEWELLER
1924 Chester #17

no photo



JAMES WALKER THE LONDON JEWELLER
1928

no photo



JAMES WALKER THE LONDON JEWELLER
1929 Chester #13



JAMES WALKER WISHES YOU LUCK
1924 #17



JAMES WALKER WISHES YOU LUCK
1923

no photo



SALSBURY THE GUILDFORD JEWELLERS
Chester 1914 #14

MHM - M H Meyer Ltd



1929 #18



Chester 1911 #17

MN&C° - Marion & Co



1892 #15



1900 #15



1898 #15



1904 #15



1898 #14



#16

NG NGC° - Northern Goldsmiths (& Co)

no photo



#16
NONSLIP



1911 #14



ANDREWS LIVER SALT
#18



HOVIS BREAD
1913



HOVIS BREAD
1911 #14



JAMES WALKER WISHES YOU LUCK
1924 #17



JAMES WALKER THE LONDON JEWELLER



1926 #14



STEELCO. WHITLEY BAY
#15

no photo



#16 STERLING SILVER

OA OA&S - Olney Amsden (& Sons)

no photo



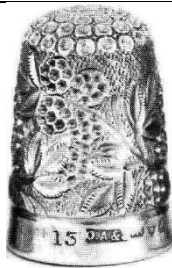
1898 #13



Chester 1900 #15 #16 1901 #13 1904 #17



1902



Chester 1900 #13 1901 #13 #16 1903 #15 1904 15



1900 #16



Chester 1901 #13



1903 #15



Chester 1901 #14



1903 #15



Chester 1901 #14



Chester 1895 #13



Chester 1901 #14



1919 #14



Chester 1901 #16



Chester 1895 #13



Chester 1902 #16



1917 #17



Chester 1902 #16



1901 #15



Chester 1914 #16

no photo



Chester #17

PFJ - P F Jackson



1926 #15



1926 #17



1911 #14



1926 #18
silver gilt

RH&C^o – Robert Harris & Co

I cannot find thimbles made with this maker's mark

no photo

no photo

WG&S - William Griffiths & Sons



CHELTENHAM
1898



BLACKPOOL
1897



CHELTENHAM
1898



CHELTENHAM
1897 #13

WHC - W H Crouch



#17 STERLING SILVER



W.H.CROUCH SWANSEA
1926



Chester 1911 #14



1926 #14

WHS - William Henry Sparrow

no photo



1902



Chester 1895



1903

References

Norma Spicer *Henry Griffith & Sons of Birmingham & Leamington Spa*. 1999

Contributors

Caroline Meacham-Elegant Arts | Ray Nimmo | Wolf-Dieter Scholz | Irene Schwall | Barbra Wallace

This listing of Henry Griffith & Sons thimbles does not purport to be complete or accurate in all aspects. Rather it invites comments and contributions to add to our knowledge. My thanks to the contributors.

EMAIL thimbleselect@bigpond.com TO SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

© Sue Gowan
August 2026

